Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2010-47

Metalaxyl

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Publications
Pest Management Regulatory Agency
Health Canada
2720 Riverside Drive
A.L. 6605C
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Internet: pmra.publications@hc-sc.gc.ca
healthcanada.gc.ca/pmra
Facsimile: 613-736-3758
Information Service:
1-800-267-6315 or 613-736-3799
pmra.infoserv@hc-sc.gc.ca

Canada

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on radishes to the product label of Ridomil Gold 480EC, containing technical grade metalaxyl-M, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Ridomil Gold 480EC, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 25384.

The evaluation of this metalaxyl-M application indicated that the end-use product has merit and value and that the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable. Details regarding the registration can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Report that is available in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website, under Public Registry, Pesticide Product Information Database.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Residues of the resolved isomer metalaxyl-M are covered by MRLs established for metalaxyl, the unresolved isomeric mixture.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for metalaxyl is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Programs and Special Actions/Minor Use/Historical tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under Application Number 2009-4172.

The proposed MRLs for metalaxyl in Canada in or on food, to be added to or replace the MRLs already legally established, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Metalaxyl

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Metalaxyl	*N*-(2,6-dimethylphenyl)-*N*-(methoxyacetyl)-DL-alanine methyl ester, including metabolites that can be converted to the 2,6-dimethylaniline moiety, each expressed as metalaxyl equivalents	15	Radish tops
		0.5	Radish roots*

*An MRL of 0.5 ppm is currently established for "radishes" but the commodity descriptor is being revised to specify "radish roots" given the higher MRL proposed for "radish tops".

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The proposed MRLs for metalaxyl in Canada are the same as corresponding tolerances established in the United States for root and tuber vegetables (Crop Group 1) and leaves of root and tuber vegetables (Crop Group 2). American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. Currently, Codex MRLs[2] have not been established for metalaxyl on radishes. A listing of all established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for metalaxyl up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs for metalaxyl and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit document in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

[2] Codex is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.